

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Fifth Amendment) An apparatus for recording and playing a digital signal, comprising:
 - a receiver for receiving an encrypted digital signal comprising a digital audio radio service broadcast segment comprising auxiliary data operable to identify [a] an actual delineation between [beginning of said] broadcast segments, said auxiliary data being embedded in said encrypted digital signal prior to said signal being received;
 - a buffer connected to said receiver for storing at least part of said digital signal as it is being received;
 - a recorder connected to said receiver for recording onto a first recording medium said encrypted digital signal in response to a user request if a beginning of said broadcast segment is in said buffer;
 - a player for playing said first recording medium and connected to a card reader; and
 - a card having a predetermined value for insertion into said card reader; wherein when said card is inserted into said card reader, said card reader verifies that said predetermined value is at least a selected minimum value and authorizes said player to decipher said encrypted digital signal from said first recording medium and to record said deciphered signal onto one of said first recording medium and a second recording medium.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
a key to decipher said encrypted digital signal, said key being stored in one of
said card and a memory device in said player.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said player is a combination
player and recorder, and further comprising:
a second recording medium configured to have said deciphered digital signal
recorded thereon.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the first recording medium and
the second recording medium are the same.

5. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said [cart] card is a smart card
having at least one of a memory device for storing monetary credits, and an integrated
circuit for storing information.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said card has a memory device
for storing said predetermined value, and said card reader is operable to deduct said
selected minimum value from said predetermined value stored in said memory device.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said digital signal is a digital
audio broadcast signal.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said card is a prepaid smart card.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein monetary value can be added and subtracted from said smart card.

10. (Fifth Amendment) A method for recording and playing digital signals, comprising:

receiving an encrypted digital signal comprising a digital audio radio service broadcast segment comprising auxiliary data operable to identify [a] an actual delineation between [beginning of said] broadcast segments, said auxiliary data being embedded in said encrypted digital signal prior to said signal being received;

storing said encrypted digital signal in a buffer as it is being received;

determining whether a beginning of said broadcast segment is in said buffer in response to a user request to record said encrypted digital signal;

recording said encrypted digital signal onto a first recording medium in a recorder and player device if said beginning of said broadcast segment is stored in said buffer;

inserting a card having at least a predetermined value into said recorder and player device;

determining that said predetermined value corresponds to at least a selected minimum value; and

deciphering said encrypted digital signal and recording said deciphered signal onto one of said first recording medium and a second recording medium if said card has said selected minimum value.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of recording said deciphered signal onto at least one of said first recording medium and a second recording medium.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said card has a memory device for storing said predetermined value, and further comprising the step of deducting said selected minimum value from said memory device.

13. (Fifth Amendment) A method for recording and playing an encrypted digital audio broadcast signal, comprising:

receiving an encrypted digital audio radio service broadcast signal comprising a digital audio broadcast segment comprising auxiliary data operable to identify [a] an actual delineation between [beginning of said] broadcast segments, said auxiliary data being embedded in said encrypted digital signal prior to said signal being received;

storing at least part of said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal in a buffer as it is being received;

electing to record said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal onto a first recording medium;

determining whether said beginning of said broadcast segment is in said buffer; and

recording said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal onto said first recording medium if said beginning of said broadcast segment is stored in said buffer.

14. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal is not recorded if said predetermined portion of said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal is not stored in said memory device.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

inserting a card provided with a monetary amount into a card reader connected to said recorder and player;

verifying that said monetary amount corresponds to a selected minimum value; and

deciphering said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal on said first recording medium if said card has said selected minimum value.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of adding a monetary amount to said card at one of a card vendor location and an automated teller machine.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of adding a monetary amount to said card over a computer network connection.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of playing said deciphered digital audio broadcast signals.

19. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said card reader is adapted to deduct said selected minimum value from said card only if said actual beginning of said broadcast segment was in said buffer.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of determining whether to deduct value from said card based on whether said actual beginning of said broadcast segment was in said buffer.